THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Xst SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FIFTH SENATE

Month/ Day/ Year

RESOLUTION #55##
Firewall for Freedom Resolution

NOTICE: *A signature to sponsor means that you only wish for the legislation to be heard, a signature to endorse means that you support the contents and/or actions of this legislation.*

WRITTEN BY: Claire Pickerel, Associate Senator for the Warner College of Natural Resources; Ellie Lutz, Associate Senator of Warner College of Natural Resources

COLLABORATED WITH:

SPONSORED BY:

ENDORSED BY:

ABSTRACT: *This resolution calls for a university wide Firewall of Freedom at CSU*

WHEREAS,

This resolution aligns with the ACLU's Firewall for Freedom campaign and has been significantly informed by both the ACLU and Amnesty International's efforts to advance Firewall for Freedom resolutions at universities across the United States; and,

WHEREAS,

Colorado State University (CSU) is committed to upholding the civil and human rights of every student, staff member, faculty member, and community member—on our campus and beyond; and,

WHEREAS,

In the first 100 days of his current term, President Donald Trump issued executive orders threatening to withhold federal funding from colleges and universities that failed

to dismantle Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs and suppress political activism on campus (Exec. Order No. 14173, 2025; Exec. Order No. 14188, 2025); and,

WHEREAS,

The administration further directed immigration officials to deport international students found to have a "hostile attitude" toward the United States, its institutions, or its culture (Exec. Order No. 13209, 2025). Additional orders specifically targeted students involved in pro-Palestinian protests—labeling such demonstrations as "anti-Semitic"—and mandated their detainment and deportation (Exec. Order No. 14188, 2025a); and,

WHEREAS,

These federal actions have already resulted in the detainment and potential deportation of multiple students across the country, actions widely condemned as unconstitutional violations of the First Amendment's protections of free speech and assembly (Offenhartz, 2025; Ahmadi, 2025; Thompson, 2025; Romero & Wang, 2025; Anders & Leventoff, 2025); and,

WHEREAS,

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has revoked nearly 5,000 Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) records under this administration, including 16 belonging to students at Colorado State University—leaving our community unsettled and unsupported (Florido, 2025; Miller, 2025); and,

WHEREAS,

The Trump administration has also rescinded key protections for LGBTQ+ individuals. On his first day in office, President Trump rolled back the Biden-era Title IX guidance that extended anti-discrimination protections to transgender students, redefining "sex" as binary and assigned at birth (Exec. Order Nos. 14168 & 14201, 2025). This reversal strips students of their rights to access facilities that align with their gender identity and to live authentically on campus; and,

WHEREAS,

Additional executive orders have banned transgender people from military service (Exec. Order No. 14183, 2025), threatened federal funding for hospitals providing gender-affirming care to minors (Exec. Order No. 14187, 2025), and barred transgender athletes from participating in women's sports (Exec. Order No. 14201, 2025); and,

WHEREAS,

Together, these directives have fostered an atmosphere of fear and instability on campuses nationwide, where students worry they may be targeted by federal agents who conceal their identities, sidestep due process, and weaponize immigration laws to punish dissent and difference; and,

WHEREAS,

The White House and federal agencies have issued direct threats to withhold research funding, student aid, and other forms of federal support from universities that refuse to capitulate to these efforts—pressuring schools to suppress dissent, silence marginalized voices, and abandon educational programs rooted in inclusion; and,

WHEREAS,

These actions represent a coordinated attempt to intimidate universities into abandoning lawful efforts to foster safe, inclusive learning environments; and,

WHEREAS,

Despite these pressures, schools, including Colorado State University, remain legally obligated to protect students from discrimination, harassment, threats, and violence; and,

WHEREAS,

Educational institutions, including Colorado State University, are also required under federal law to safeguard the integrity and confidentiality of student records—including protecting them from unlawful or politically motivated disclosures; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED

The student body of Colorado State University declares its support for the protection of civil and human rights of all members of our campus community and calls upon the Colorado State University's president, Amy Parsons, to take all possible measures to continue to ensure that our campus is a safe space, where students may exercise their rights without fear or intimidation; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED

The student body encourages the Colorado State University President and Board of Trustees to resist White House and federal agency demands that undermine academic freedom and our civil and human rights in exchange for an illusory promise of continued federal grantmaking; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED

the student body of Colorado State University calls on the Colorado State University President to employ their authority to establish a firewall for freedom, prohibiting employees of the Colorado State University from voluntarily providing information or assistance in response to a request from federal authorities or out-of-state authorities that seeks—

1. to identify, or impose civil or criminal liability or other penalties, including termination or reduction of grant funding, upon a person or entity based on their participation in

activities protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution including assembly, petitioning, expression of viewpoints, and speech;

2. to identify or apprehend a person in order to subject them to immigration detention, removal or deportation proceedings; or to prosecute a person or persons for offenses related to immigration status based on their participation in activities protected by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution including assembly, petitioning expression of viewpoints and speech; and

3. to investigate the sex or gender of a student, faculty, or staff member.

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED

That a copy of this legislation is sent to...

PASSAGE AND ENACTMENT OF RESOLUTION/BILL/LEX 54XX
SESSION OF PASSAGE

Yays – Nays – Abstentions

ASCSU SPEAKER OF THE SENATE BROOKELYN REESE **DATE**

ASCSU PRESIDENT JAKYE NUNLEY **DATE**

RESOURCES:

Ahmadi, A. A. (n.d.). *Mohsen Mahdawi: Palestinian student activist arrested at US citizenship interview*. BBC News. Retrieved April 29, 2025, from https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cwy0332y7xzo

Executive Order No. 14161, 2025. *Protecting the United States from Foreign Terrorists and Other National Security and Public Safety Threats*. https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/01/30/2025-02009/protecting-the-united-states-from-foreign-terrorists-and-other-national-security-and-public-safetyhttps://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/DCPD-202500128

Executive Order No. 14173, 2025. *Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity*. https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/DCPD-202500158

Executive Order No. 14183, 2025. *Prioritizing Military Excellence and Readiness*. https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/DCPD-202500187

Executive Order No. 14187, 2025. *Protecting Children from Chemical and Surgical Mutilation*. https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/DCPD-202500192

Executive Order No. 14188, 2025. *Additional Measures to Combat Anti-Semitism*. https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/DCPD-202500196

Executive Order No. 14201, 2025. *Keeping Men Out of Women's Sports*. https://www.govinfo.gov/app/details/DCPD-202500229

Fadel, L. (2025, April 8). "Citizenship won't save you": Free speech advocates say student arrests should worry all. *NPR*. https://www.npr.org/2025/04/08/nx-s1-5349472/students-protest-trump-free-speech-arrests-deportation-gaza

Federal Court Says First Amendment Bars Government From Deporting Students and Faculty on Basis of Political Viewpoint, Says Challenge to Trump Policy Can Go Forward. (2025, April 29). *Knight First Amendment Institute*. Retrieved April 29, 2025, from https://knightcolumbia.org/content/federal-court-says-first-amendment-bars-government-from-deporting-students-and-faculty-on-basis-of-political-viewpoint-says-challenge-to-trump-policy-can-go-forward

Florido, A. (2025, April 25). Government says—For now—It will restore international students' status. *NPR*. https://www.npr.org/2025/04/25/nx-s1-5377610/government-says-for-now-it-will-restore-international-students-status

Miller, A. (2025, April 23). *Uncertainty grows across campus following sudden revocation of 16 international student visas*. The Rocky Mountain Collegian. Retrieved April 29, 2025, from https://collegian.com/articles/news/2025/04/category-news-csu-community-responds-to-revocation-of-16-international-student-visas/

Mosley, T. (2025, April 2). Legal scholar sees immigrant arrests as a "struggle for the soul of the country." *NPR*. https://www.npr.org/2025/04/02/nx-s1-5348083/legal-scholar-sees-immigrant-arrests-as-a-struggle-for-the-soul-of-the-country

Offenhartz, J. (2025, March 9). *ICE arrests Palestinian activist Mahmoud Khalil*. AP News. Retrieved April 29, 2025, from https://apnews.com/article/columbia-university-mahmoud-khalil-ice-15014bcbb921f21a9f704d5acdcae7a8

Thompson, H. (2025, April 21). *Mankato student detained by ICE over Palestinian support, lawsuit claims*. FOX 9 Minneapolis-St. Paul. Retrieved April 29, 2025, from https://www.fox9.com/news/mankato-state-student-detained-ice-palestine-protests

U.S. Department of Education. (2025, February 15). *U.S. Department of Education directs schools to end racial preferences*. https://www.ed.gov/about/news/press-release/us-department-of-education-directs-schools-end-racial-preferences

---

THAT THIS LEGISLATION SHALL BE FORWARDED TO:

Amy Parsons, President of Colorado State University
Tony Frank, Chancellor of the Colorado State University System
Blanche Hughes, Vice President for Student Affairs of Colorado State University
Evan Welch, Talent Development Specialist, ASCSU Advisor
Lindsay Mason, Director of Off-Campus Life, ASCSU Advisor
Ben Schrader, Director of the Adult Learner and Veteran Services, ASCSU Advisor
Jason Hewitt, ASCSU Advisor
Elisa Randazzo, ASCSU Administrative Assistant
Sagarika Sarma, Interim Director of the Asian Pacific American Cultural Center
Duan Ruff, Director, Student Leadership Involvement and Community Engagement
Dr. Jennifer Molock, Director, Black/African American Cultural Center
Aaron Escobedo Garmon, Director of El Centro
Maggie Hendrickson, Director of the Pride Resource Center
Tyrone Smith, Director of the Native American Cultural Center
Victoria Benjamin, Director for the Survivor Advocacy & Feminist Education Center
Erica Ross, Assistant Director for Educational Programs for the Survivor Advocacy & Feminist Education Center
Justin Dove, Director of the Student Disability Center

ARCHIVE INFO [Parliamentarian Use Only]

INTRODUCTION DATE/SESSION: **ARCHIVE DATE:**

COMMITTEE'S REVIEWED: **MONETARY? Y/N**